

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 619

By Durham

A RESOLUTION recognizing Hunt-Beasley Farm, a Tennessee Century Farm.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor and recognize those exceptional farming families who, through their dedication to the ancient and esteemed traditions of agriculture, have made significant contributions to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, the Hunt/Beasley/Sparkman family of Williamson County certainly ranks among those estimable Tennessee farming families; Hunt-Beasley Farm, owned and operated by the family since 1886, has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm in recognition of its long and varied history; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Century Farms Program recognizes those families who have owned and farmed the same land for over a century, and also documents and interprets the State's history and culture of farming; and

WHEREAS, in 1886, J. Buchanan Hunt and his wife, Ella Beasley Hunt, established the Hunt-Beasley Farm, a stead of sixty acres located fifteen miles south of Franklin, on which they raised grain, hay, and cattle; and

WHEREAS, in time, the farm passed to their daughter, Evie Hunt, who worked the land with her husband, N.C. Beasley, before bestowing the farm upon their daughter, Willie Mae Jones; and

WHEREAS, Willie Mae Jones and her husband, J.R. Jones, were the proprietors of this jewel of Williamson County for a number of years before Alice E. Jones Sparkman, the daughter of Willie Mae and J.R. and the great-granddaughter of J. Buchanan Hunt, acquired the farm in

1985. Alice and her husband, Ollie Jones Sparkman, continued to work the land for several years; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State, the strength of its communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like the members of the Hunt/Beasley/Sparkman family, who have demonstrated a deep respect for tradition and hard work and a love for the land; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Alice Jones Sparkman and the entire Sparkman family, whose Hunt-Beasley Farm has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm, commend them for their dedication to agriculture, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.